

Memphis Area Master Gardeners Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 1, 2024

Start Time: 4:40 p.m.

End Time: 6:08 p.m.

Location: Agricenter Meeting Room

Board Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Steve Scheer	President
Terry Merriweather	Vice President
Ginny Fletcher	Treasurer
Kelly Grayson	Recording Secretary
Malinda McDaniel	Corresponding Secretary
Barbara Hodges	Senior Director
Kelsey Lyons	Ten Plus Director
Jan Dickey	Past President

Guests Present: Dr. Chris Cooper, Julie Morgan, Jan Orick, Jim Volgas

Presiding Chair: Steve Scheer, President **Minutes:** Kelly Grayson, Recording Secretary

- A. **Call to order:** Steve Scheer called the meeting to order
- B. **Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the January 4, 2024 board meeting were approved, as published.
- C. **Extension Report and Announcements:** The new intern class has begun with 48 students. UT Extension Horticulture Specialist Celeste Scott recently presented a Botany class for them. The Seed Swap at Lichterman was well-attended.
- D. **President:** No report
- E. **Vice President:** Vice President Terry Merriweather has speakers Lelia Kelly for February, Dale Skaggs for March, and Jason Reeves for April.
- F. **Treasurer:** Treasurer Ginny Fletcher had no report as necessary documents did not arrive in time.
- G. **Recording Secretary:** No report
- H. **Corresponding Secretary:** Corresponding Secretary Malinda McDaniel sent notes to grieving and ill members.
- I. **Past President:** Past President Jan Dickey shared that Master Gardeners Present just concluded a successful dress rehearsal. The room for the event is limited to 200 with reserved seating for those who purchase tickets early.

J. Committee Reports:

- a. Parliamentarian Jim Volgas gave a presentation on the formal process for handling motions and how business is properly brought to the meeting floor.
- b. Julie Morgan of the website and membership committees gave an update on membership numbers and indicated that they are staying fairly consistent. The website committee will be contacting committee chairs and project leads to update the information on the website. They plan to add a plant of the month feature and offer website training in the future.

K. New Business:

- a. Feedback was received from members after the January meeting discussing the budget shortfall. Members suggested projects and events they felt did not support our mission or reach enough of the community. Areas of member concern included the Great Tomato Contest, the holiday dinner, and scholarships. Suggestions were also made to raise dues and charge for TOGG admission. The board discussed that membership may need an explanation of the proper way to bring forward a motion on any of these suggestions. Jim Volgas suggested a survey to all members to get feedback on priorities.
- b. Steve Scheer suggested that we create new standing committees for Ways and Means and Philanthropy.

L. Announcements:

The Hotline and Ask a Master Gardener Committees will move to Extension. The bylaws will need to be changed to support that move.

The February all-member meeting will include a Share & Learn from the Spring Fling committee, social time, refreshments brought by the 10+ members, and volunteer recognition.

The Memphis Public Library Seed Swap will be Sunday, February 11, 2024 from 2:00-4:00 pm

Adjournment: Steve Scheer, President, declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: March 7, 2024

Kelly Grayson, Recording Secretary

Steve Scheer, President